



FILED

07-20-06

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BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Rulemaking on the Commission's Own
Motion to Review the Telecommunications
Public Policy Programs.

Rulemaking 06-05-028
(Filed May 25, 2006)

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE'S RULING SCHEDULING PUBLIC
PARTICIPATION HEARINGS, SETTING DATE FOR FILING NOTICES OF
INTENT TO CLAIM INTERVENOR COMPENSATION, AND DIRECTING AT&T
AND VERIZON TO DISTRIBUTE COPIES OF 2004 AFFORDABILITY STUDY**

On May 25, 2006, the Commission opened this rulemaking to conduct a comprehensive review of its Telecommunications Public Policy Programs – California LifeLine, Payphone Programs, Deaf and Disabled Telecommunications Program, and California Teleconnect Fund. To initiate the review, the Commission posed a series of questions on these programs and set filing dates for initial comments and proposals as well as reply comments. The Commission also indicated that at least three public participation hearings would be held throughout the state.

This ruling sets the hearings, addresses two administrative issues, and adds an issue for comment.

1. Public Participation Hearings

Public Participation Hearings are scheduled as follows:

Monday, September 25, 2006

10:00 am – 12:00 noon Deaf and Disabled Telecommunications Program

1:30 pm – 4:30 pm All Other Programs

**San Diego State Office Building
1350 Front Street, Auditorium**

San Diego, California

Thursday, October 26, 2006

9:00 am – 11:00 noon Deaf and Disabled Telecommunications Program

1:30 pm – 4:30 pm All Other Programs

**Oxnard City Hall Council Chambers
305 West 3rd Street
Oxnard, California**

Friday, November 3, 2006

10:00 am – 12:00 noon Deaf and Disabled Telecommunications Program

1:30 pm – 4:30 pm All Other Programs

**California Energy Commission Building
1516 Ninth Street, Hearing Room A
Sacramento, California**

Each provider of local exchange service or wireless telephone service shall notify its customers of these hearings no later than September 15, 2006. The notice shall be in substantially the same form as the attached sample. The notice may be delivered as part of customer's bill, whether electronic or hard copy, or by first class mail. The Commission's Public Advisor is available to answer any questions about the notice requirement, and may approve any deviations from these requirements for good cause shown.

A copy, either in electronic or paper form, of this ruling shall be served on all local exchange carriers and wireless telephone providers.

2. Notices of Intent to Claim Intervenor Compensation

Parties that intend to seek intervenor compensation shall file the notices required by Pub. Util. Code § 1804 no later than August 11, 2006.

3. Affordability of Telephone Services – A Survey of Customers and Non-Customers (Field Research Corporation, 2004).

Verizon California, Inc. and SBC Communications Inc.¹ engaged the Field Research Corporation to prepare the above-referenced survey. I have reviewed the "Summary Presentation to the California Public Utilities Commission" dated July 26, 2004. The survey covers many issues that will be considered in this proceeding, such that the results may be of interest to parties.

Accordingly, no later than August 11, 2006, Verizon and AT&T - California, shall file and serve a summary of the survey to all parties. Verizon and AT&T may distribute the July 26, 2004, summary or any other available summary that includes substantially the same information. Upon request and with any needed additional arrangements, the full survey results should also be provided.

4. Additional LifeLine Issue For Comment

The LifeLine program currently allows some carriers to charge their customers a \$10 fee to switch from regular tariffed local exchange service to LifeLine service. Interested parties may address the following questions in their comments to be filed in this proceeding: What is the cost justification for this

¹ Now known as AT&T - California.

charge? Is this charge consistent with the LifeLine Program's statutory goals? Should this charge be modified or eliminated? What alternative cost recovery mechanisms are feasible?

IT IS SO RULED.

Dated July 20, 2006, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ MARIBETH A. BUSHEY
Maribeth A. Bushey
Administrative Law Judge

SAMPLE

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION HEARINGS
REGARDING REVIEW OF THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS
PUBLIC POLICY PROGRAMS
RULEMAKING 06-05-028**

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) has scheduled Public Participation Hearings in R.06-05-028 to conduct a comprehensive review of its Telecommunications Public Policy Programs – California LifeLine, Payphone Programs, Deaf and Disabled Telecommunications Program, and California Teleconnect Fund. The hearings will be held as follows:

Monday, September 25, 2006

**10:00 am – 12:00 noon Deaf and Disabled Telecommunications Program
1:30 pm – 4:30 pm All Other Programs**

**San Diego State Building
1350 Front Street, Auditorium
San Diego, California**

Thursday, October 26, 2006

**9:00 am – 11:00 noon Deaf and Disabled Telecommunications Program
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1:30 pm – 4:30 pm All Other Programs**

**California Energy Commission Building
1516 Ninth Street, Hearing Room A
Sacramento, California**

The hearings have been scheduled as noted above and provide an opportunity for customers to present their views, comments and opinions regarding the Commission's Telecommunications Public Policy Programs. The assigned Commissioner and Administrative Law Judge will preside over the hearings and a court reporter will transcribe comments for the record. Representatives from the Commission's Public Advisor's Office will assist in facilitating the hearings.

The Commission welcomes your participation and comments. If you cannot attend the hearing, you may submit written comments to: CPUC, Public Advisor's Office, 505 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94102 or e-mail to public.advisor@cpuc.ca.gov. Please reference Rulemaking 06-05-028 in your written comments. Your comments will be circulated to the Commissioners and the assigned ALJ and will become part of the formal correspondence file as part of the record in this proceeding.

These facilities are handicap accessible. If specialized accommodations are needed for the Sacramento location, such as language interpreters or assistance for the hard of hearing, please contact the CPUC's Public Advisor's Office via e-mail at public.advisor@cpuc.ca.gov or by phone at (415) 703-2074, toll-free at 1-866-849-8390, TTY toll-free at 1-866-836-7825, or regular TTY at (415) 703-5282 at least five (5) working days prior to the hearing.

For the PPH locations in San Diego and Oxnard, please contact the CPUC's Public Advisor's Office via e-mail at public.advisor.la@cpuc.ca.gov or by phone at (213) 576-7055, toll free at 1-866-849-8391, TTY toll free at 1-866-836-7825 at least five (5) working days prior to the hearing.

INFORMATION REGARDING SERVICE

I have provided notification of filing to the electronic mail addresses on the attached service list.

Upon confirmation of this document's acceptance for filing, I will cause a copy of the filed document to be served upon the service list to this proceeding by U.S. mail. The service list I will use to serve the copy of the filed document is current as of today's date.

Dated July 20, 2006, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ ELVIRA NIZ

Elvira Niz

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Last Update on 17-JUL-2006 by: SMJ
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